

Message Text

PAGE 01 STATE 221371

16
ORIGIN SS-30

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O 090959Z NOV 73 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO ALL DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR POSTS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY SUVA BY POUCH
AMEMBASSY BANJUL BY POUCH
AMCONSUL CURACAO BY POUCH
AMCONSUL MARTINIQUE BY POUCH
XMT AMEMBASSY KAMPALA
AMEMBASSY SUVA
AMEMBASSY BANJUL
AMCONSUL CURACAO
AMCONSUL MARTINIQUE

S E C R E T STATE 221371

EXDIS TOSEC 288 ZFF ISLAMABAD ONLY INFORM CONSULS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, XF
SUBJ: MIDDLE EAST SITUATION NO. 103

ISLAMABAD FOR SECRETARY'S PARTY
ADDIS ABABA FOR ASST SECY NEWSOM
INFORM CONSULS
VIENNA PASS USDEL MBFR
KUWAIT POUCH MUSCAT AND DOHA
BEIRUT PASS BAGHDAD

1. MILITARY SITUATION: SITUATION REMAINED GENERALLY QUIET
NOV. 8 WITH ONLY A FEW EXCHANGES OF SMALL ARMS FIRE RE-
PORTED ON BOTH EGYPTIAN AND SYRIAN FRONTS. SYRIANS ALSO
SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 221371

UNSUCCESSFULLY FIRED SA-2 MISSILE AT TWO ISRAELI AIRCRAFT
ON RECON FLIGHT ALONG FRONT. IDF BRIEFER TOLD USDAO
TEL AVIV THERE HAS BEEN SOME MOVEMENT BY EGYPTIAN ARMOR ON
EITHER FLANK OF ISRAELI SALIENT WEST OF CANAL. IDF

ESTIMATES THAT SYRIANS NOW HAVE OVER 1,000 TANKS AND 120 BATTERIES OF ARTILLERY ON FRONT LINES.

2. CEASEFIRE AGREEMENT: PRESS STORIES REPORT THAT U.S. OFFICIALS WITH SECRETARY'S PARTY IN RIYADH STATE THAT ISRAEL AND EGYPT HAVE ACCEPTED FIVE-POINT CEASEFIRE AGREEMENT THAT COULD PRODUCE PEACE TALKS BY END OF YEAR. ACTION TO IMPLEMENT AGREEMENT, FOR WHICH SOURCES DESCRIBE WASHINGTON AS "TRUSTEE", WILL BEGIN IN A FEW DAYS. ISRAELI PRESS STATES AGREEMENT CALLS FOR EGYPT AND ISRAEL EVENTUALLY TO WITHDRAW THEIR RESPECTIVE FORCES ACROSS SUEZ CANAL WITH PEACE TALKS TO BEGIN WITHIN TWO MONTHS. ISRAEL TALKS WITH JORDAN AND SYRIA WOULD FOLLOW ONCE ISRAELI-EGYPTIAN AGREEMENT ACHIEVED. RADIO TEL AVIV REPORTS THAT GEN. AHARON AND A SENIOR EGYPTIAN OFFICER MET AGAIN ON AFTERNOON OF NOV. 8 FOR TWO HOURS--FIRST SUCH MEETING SINCE FIVE-POINT PLAN ACCEPTED. NO OFFICIAL EGYPTIAN COMMENT HAS BEEN HEARD BUT MIDDLE EAST NEWS AGENCY STATES THAT REPORTS OF AGREEMENT APPEARING IN ISRAELI AND FOREIGN MEDIA DO NOT AGREE WITH CONTENTS OF PLAN WHICH EGYPT HAS ACCEPTED. MORE SPECIFICALLY, CAIRO DAILY AL-AHRAM DENIES THAT EGYPT HAS AGREED TO LIFT NAVAL BLOCKADE AT BAB AL-MANDEB BUT LISTS THIS AS AMONG ELEMENTS ON WHICH STEPS ARE BEING TAKEN TO PAVE WAY FOR ARAB-ISRAELI PEACE CONFERENCE.

3. UNEF: IN DISCUSSIONS WITH UNSYG IN NEW YORK AND WITH UNEF ACTING CHIEF SIILASVUO IN ISRAEL ON NOV. 7, ISRAELIS AGREED TO STATIONING OF IRISH CONTINGENT ON EAST BANK OF CANAL AND ON ISRAELI SIDE OF CEASEFIRE LINES ONLY. IRISH OR OTHER UNITS STATIONED IN ISRAELI-CONTROLLED AREAS MUST COORDINATE THEIR MOVEMENTS WITH IDF AND BE ACCOMPANIED BY IDF LIAISON OFFICERS AT ALL TIMES. NO UNEF FORCES MAY BE DEPLOYED BETWEEN IDF AND EGYPTIAN FORCES NOR WILL ISRAEL PERMIT UNITS OR INDIVIDUALS FROM COUNTRIES WITH WHICH IT DOES NOT HAVE DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS TO BE STATIONED IN OR TO ENTER ISRAELI-CONTROLLED AREAS. USG HAS INFORMED UN
SECRET

PAGE 03 STATE 221371

THAT U.S. WILL NOT REQUEST REIMBURSEMENT BY IT FOR U.S. AIRLIFTS OF PERSONNEL AND SUPPLIES TO GET UNEF IN PLACE. REIMBURSEMENT WILL BE REQUIRED FOR ALL OTHER SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT FURNISHED UN BY U.S. U.S. WILL PROBABLY BE ASKED TO LIFT DURING INITIAL PHASE CONTINGENTS FOR UNEF FROM INDONESIA AS WELL AS PERU AND PANAMA. USSR WILL PROBABLY BE ASKED TO LIFT TROOPS FROM NEPAL, GHANA, AND POLAND. INDONESIAN CONTINGENT IS READY TO DEPART NOV. 12 BUT IS AWAITING WORD ON TRANSPORTATION. AUSTRALIA HAS AGREED TO HELP EQUIP INDONESIAN CONTINGENT. FORMAL ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEPALESE PARTICIPATION IN UNEF IS EXPECTED BE MADE THIS AFTERNOON. FRANCE HAS REFUSED UNSYG REQUEST FOR AIRLIFT AND OTHER LOGISTIC SUPPORT TO UNEF ON GROUNDS THAT UNSC

RES. 340 EXCLUDES PARTICIPATION IN UNEF BY PERMANENT MEMBERS OF SC.

4. DIPLOMATIC ACTIVITY: SECRETARY KISSINGER HAS CONCLUDED TALKS WITH KING FAISAL IN RIYADH AND IS ON HIS WAY TO TEHRAN. PRESS REPORTS FROM ISRAEL STATE ABBA EBAN PLANNING COME TO NEW YORK SHORTLY, PERHAPS TODAY, TO REPLACE AILING TEKOAH AS HEAD OF ISRAELI UNDEL AND FOR TALKS IN WASHINGTON. ALGERIAN AMB IN BEIRUT TOLD U.S. EMBOFF ON NOV. 7 THAT PRES. BOUMEDIENE HAS SUCCEEDED IN PERSUADING KEY ARAB CHIEFS OF STATE TO ATTEND THREE-DAY SUMMIT CONFERENCE IN ALGIERS, PERHAPS AS EARLY AS NOV. 11 OR 12. HOWEVER, OTHER ARAB SOURCES INDICATE THAT EGYPT AND SAUDI ARABIA MAY STILL HAVE RESERVATIONS ABOUT HOLDING SUMMIT.

5. PALESTINIANS: ALGERIAN AMB IN BEIRUT ALSO TOLD U.S. EMBOFF THAT HIS GOVERNMENT IS ADVISING PALESTINIANS TO BE "REALISTIC" AND THAT PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION (PLO) SHOULD SEEK TO ESTABLISH ITS CREDENTIALS AS REPRESENTATIVE OF PALESTINIANS IN FUTURE PEACE NEGOTIATIONS, PROBABLY INCLUDING FORMATION OF "GOVERNMENT IN EXILE" ON MODEL OF ALGERIAN FLN. BAGHDAD RADIO REPORTS MEETING THERE ON NIGHT OF NOV. 8 BETWEEN IRAQI BAATH PARTY OFFICIALS, FATAH LEADER YASIR ARAFAT, PDFLP LEADER NAYIF AL-HAWATIMAH, AND BAGHDAD PLO REPRESENTATIVE. MEANWHILE, BAGHDAD RADIO'S VOICE OF PALESTINE BROADCAST HAS SHARPLY ATTACKED ARAB "DEFEATISTS", I.E., SADAT, FOR AGREEING TO SECRET

PAGE 04 STATE 221371

REESTABLISH DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH U.S.

6.OIL: AP REPORTS THAT SAUDI MINISTER OF STATE SAQQAF HAS STATED THAT THE SECRETARY FAILED TO PERSUADE KING FAISAL TO LIFT HIS EMBARGO ON OIL TO THE U.S. U.S. OFFICIALS WITH SECRETARY'S PARTY IN RIYADH ARE ALSO QUOTED IN PRESS REPORTS AS HOLDING OUT LITTLE HOPE FOR EARLY EASING OF ARAB OIL RESTRICTIONS. ALGERIA HAS ANNOUNCED IT WILL CUT OIL DELIVERIES TO FOREIGN COMPANIES BY 25 PERCENT. THERE IS NO INDICATION, HOWEVER, THAT ALGERIAN EXPORTS OF NATURAL GAS WILL BE AFFECTED BY THIS DECISION. NEW FUEL ECONOMY MEASURES HAVE BEEN ANNOUNCED IN SEVERAL WEST EUROPEAN COUNTRIES INCLUDING PORTUGAL AND IN PHILIPPINES. ISRAEL HAS ALSO INSTITUTED FUEL CONSERVATION MEASURES DESIGNED TO CUT CONSUMPTION BY 15 PERCENT. IN NOV. 7 MEETING IN PARIS WITH UNDER SECY CASEY FRENCH FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS DESCRIBED FRENCH POSITION IN CURRENT SITUATION AS CENTERED ON HOPE THAT RECENT EC FOREIGN MINISTERS STATEMENT ON MIDEAST WILL RESULT IN LOOSENING OF ARAB OIL CURB. FRENCH STATE THAT NEITHER DUTCH NOR GERMANS HAVE PRESSED FOR ASSISTANCE FROM EC PARTNERS; HOWEVER, DUTCH MAY EXPECT RECEIVE SOME QUIET ASSISTANCE

IN RETURN FOR HAVING SIGNED JOINT DECLARATION.

7. SEN. FULBRIGHT: IN SPEECH TO BE DELIVERED TODAY,
SEN. FULBRIGHT IS EXPECTED TO CALL ON U.S. AND USSR TO
PERSUADE AND PRESSURE ISRAEL TO GIVE UP ARAB TERRITORY
HELD SINCE 1967 IN EXCHANGE FOR SUPERPOWER GUARANTEE OF
HER SECURITY. RUSH

NOTE BY OC/T: PASSED SUVA, BANJUL, CURACAO AND MARTINIQUE BY POUCH.

SECRET

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MARTINIQUE BY POUCH

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